

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Chunhsi Andy Mu on 10/23/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

1. A computer-assisted process for converting a displayed contract text document into a workflow process, comprising the steps of:

(1) detecting, by a computing device, a plurality of distinct user-selected text portions of the displayed contract text document;

(2) for each of the plurality of distinct user-selected text portions, querying the user to identify at least one corresponding user-selected workflow process parameter, wherein the at least one user-selected workflow process parameter is being detected by the computing device using voice recognition;

(3) tagging, by the computing device, the document based on the plurality of distinct user-selected text portions and corresponding user-selected workflow process

parameters, ~~wherein~~ said tagging ~~correlates~~ correlating each user-selected text portion to a user-selected order within a computer-based contract negotiation workflow process;

(4) storing each user-selectable text portion with corresponding user-selectable workflow process parameters into a data structure representing an ordering of information to be elicited when the workflow process is executed; and

(5) executing the computer-based contract negotiation workflow process using the data structure as a template to drive the workflow process.

20. A computer-assisted method of reverse engineering a contract text document into a data structure representing a workflow process, comprising the steps of:

(1) displaying the contract text document on a computer screen;

(2) receiving user input including speech from editing tools superimposed over the contract text document, ~~wherein~~ the editing tools ~~permit~~ permitting the user to tag the document with associated workflow process parameters, being detected using voice recognition, based on user-selected portions of the document, ~~wherein~~ said tagging ~~correlates~~ correlating each user-selected portion to a user-selected order within the workflow process; and

(3) generating and storing the data structure as a template for driving the workflow process from the tagged document.

27. A computer-assisted process for converting a contract text document into a workflow process, comprising the steps of:

- (1) displaying the contract text document on a computer screen;
- (2) detecting user-selected text portions of the text document on the computer screen;
- (3) detecting user-selected options for associating each user-selected text portion with a plurality of workflow process parameters including at least an indication of when information corresponding to the user-selected text portion will be solicited during the workflow process and an indication of how information corresponding to the user-selected text portion will be solicited during the workflow process, ~~wherein~~ the plurality of workflow process parameters ~~are~~ being detected using voice recognition;
- (4) generating a template comprising a data structure that contains portions of the text document and the associations detected in step (3);
- (5) based on the data structure generated in step (4), executing the workflow process by generating prompts to solicit information based on the template; and
- (6) in response to detecting responses to the prompts, generating a new contract text document reflecting information entered in response to the prompts.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RACHNA S. DESAI whose telephone number is (571)272-4099. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30AM-6:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Rachna S Desai/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2176
10/23/09